

Appln No. 09/692,747

Amdt date July 26, 2004

Reply to Office action of February 25, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-45 are pending. The Examiner has initially rejected the claims on various grounds as set forth in the Office Action. Applicants thank the Examiner for his attention to this application, and respectfully request that the Examiner reexamine, reconsider and allow the application. Once the Examiner receives this Amendment, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney of record to discuss any outstanding issues via telephonic interview.

As an initial matter, Applicants request that the information disclosure statements dated March 28, 2001, May 2, 2001, March 8, 2002 and February 6, 2004 be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner on the respective Forms 1449. To the extent the Examiner requires copies of the IDSs or accompanying paperwork, Applicants are happy to provide copies of the same upon the Examiner's request.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-15 and 29-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In response to the rejection, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 29 to recite that the second computer is used by the user to access the system. Applicants believe that the rejection of the noted claims, including dependent claims 2-15 and 30-36, which depend upon claims 1 and 29 respectively, should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has also rejected dependent claims 13-15 as referring to the term "VBI", which only appears in the preamble. Applicants have amended claims 13-15 to provide antecedent basis

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within the body of the claim. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection of claims 13-15 should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has rejected the claims noted in paragraph 5 of the Office Action, including independent claims 1, 16, 29 and 37, under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Brookner, U.S. Patent 6,041,317. The Examiner has further rejected the claims noted in paragraph 6, including independent claims 1, 16, 29 and 37, under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as allegedly being Applicants' invention, among other things, allows a user to access the system using one or more computers. If a user registers on the system using a first computer, and then attempts to access the system using a second computer, then the system will require that the user successfully go through a re-registration process, and specifically a re-registration wizard in claims 1 and 29, before the user is allowed access to the system using the second computer. This re-registration feature in combination with the other limitations set forth in the claims is nowhere disclosed or suggested in the relied upon references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request that rejection of claims 1, 16, 29 and 37 be withdrawn, and the claims allowed.

As all of the remaining claims depend upon allowable claims, the dependent claims are considered allowable as well.

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Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request allowance of pending claims 1-45 and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By 

Art Hasan

Reg. No. 41,057

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